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FOOD ON WORLD-WIDE BATTLE FRONTS

NETWORK: NBC

DATE: December 18, 1943

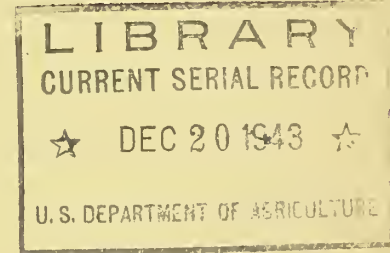
ORIGIN: WRC

TIME: 12:15-12:30 PM-EWT

(Produced by the Food Distribution Administration of the War Food Administration, this script is for reference only and may not be broadcast without special permission. The title CONSUMER TIME is restricted to network broadcast of this program...presented for more than ten years in the interest of consumers.)

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1. SOUND: CASH REGISTER RINGS TWICE....MONEY IN TILL
2. JOHN: It's CONSUMER TIME!
3. SOUND: CASH REGISTER
4. MAN I: That's your money buying food!
5. SOUND: CASH REGISTER
6. WOMAN: That's your money buying clothes!
7. SOUND: CASH REGISTER
8. MAN I: That's your money buying....a living in wartime!
9. SOUND: CASH REGISTER...CLOSE DRAWER
10. JOHN: Yes, this is CONSUMER TIME. During the next 15 minutes the National Broadcasting Company and its affiliated independent radio stations make their facilities available as a public service to the War Food Administration. As American citizens you take part in food rationing. With food, you've been asked to Produce, to Conserve, to Share and to Play Square. These things are matters of military necessity. However, in this country, we are distant from the battle fronts. The conditions...the needs...of battle areas are almost unreal...due to distance. But...to men who have served on battle fronts...and men whose business it is to know our enemies...these needs, the food needs, are terribly real and vital. Today, we bring you a picture of food...on world-wide battle fronts.



There is a large number of people who are interested in the study of the history of the United States. They are interested in the history of the United States because it is a very interesting and important subject. They are interested in the history of the United States because it is a very interesting and important subject.

CHAPTER 10

1. The first part of the chapter is devoted to a discussion of the history of the United States.

2. The second part of the chapter is devoted to a discussion of the history of the United States.

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16. The sixteenth part of the chapter is devoted to a discussion of the history of the United States.

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21. The twenty-first part of the chapter is devoted to a discussion of the history of the United States.

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23. The twenty-third part of the chapter is devoted to a discussion of the history of the United States.

11. FREYMAN: The men who'll give this picture are men who've been on world-wide battle fronts...or men who've studied and eaten food of our Axis enemies. From experience...these men know the fighting importance of food.
12. JOHN: All of them are members of the United States Naval ^{Medical} Forces...and all are either now patients or staff members of the Naval Center in Washington.
13. FREYMAN: Our first guest is a man who is a nutrition specialist. He has made some studies of the foods and rations used by our enemies... particularly Japan. He is Lt. Commander Clive McCay of the Naval Medical Research Institute ...and we're happy to have you with us Commander McCay.
14. McCAY: Thank you, Mrs. Freyman. I'm particularly glad to be here and have the opportunity of telling the truth about a fairy story. A fairy story which too many Americans accept as gospel.
15. FREYMAN: A fairy story?
16. McCAY: Yes, Mrs. Freyman. The one we believe about Japanese soldiers living regularly on a handful of rice and a few fish scraps. Believe me, that little fairy story is a fairy story...and untrue.
17. FREYMAN: You mean that Jap fighting men actually get fairly good food?
18. McCAY: I mean just that. Under reasonably normal conditions, they get a good ration. They are not "super men" who can live indefinitely on a handful of food. They require a good, balanced diet... just as our fighting men do. And the Japanese are getting it. Make no mistake about that.
19. FREYMAN: What makes you so certain about that, Commander McCay?
20. McCAY: Well, we've been examining and studying some of their rations very carefully.

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21. JOHN: Naturally, Commander McCay, the Mikado didn't send you special samples of food and ration tables, for examination.
22. McCAY: Naturally not, Johnny. But the Japanese at Kiska and Attu and Guadalcanal...and other places...were sometimes forced to leave so hurriedly that they left a lot of food and papers...and other things, behind.
23. JOHN: Rations and food tables you've been studying very carefully?
24. McCAY: Indeed we have. The rice issued by the Japanese for military use is of very good quality. Their enriched flour is excellent.
25. FREYMAN: Does that mean that the Japs never did live on the proverbial handful of rice a day?
26. McCAY: Oh, they've probably lived on that...and less...at times...just as our men have. That happens when supplies are destroyed or can't be transported temporarily. But, living on a handful of rice isn't the way the Japanese Army and Navy feeds its men regularly.
27. FREYMAN: How about the balance in their ration...the vitamins and mineralsfor example?
28. McCAY: Mrs. Freyman...let's not fool ourselves. The Japanese have done a smart job there. Take the case of the vitamin, riboflavin...
29. FREYMAN: Let's see...milk, meats...particularly liver and kidneys and such are especially good sources of riboflavin, aren't they?
30. McCAY: Yes...along with certain other foods. Now, the Japanese don't seem to be too well fixed for milk and some of the better riboflavin meats. However, they must have riboflavin so their men will keep their fighting edge.
31. FREYMAN: And the Japs have solved this riboflavin problem?
32. McCAY: We believe they have. Captured supplies from Kiska reveal a certain variety of seaweed that has relatively large amounts of riboflavin. They put this with other foods to make a stew.

33. JOHN: How does it taste, Commander McCay?
34. McCAY: I never asked a Jap about that, Johnny...but to me, it tastes terrible. However, in general, their rations seem palatable.
35. FREYMAN: Do the Japs use dehydrated foods...as our fighting forces do?
36. McCAY: Indeed they do, Mrs. Freyman. They use dehydrated foods in considerable variety.
37. FREYMAN: How do they compare with our dried foods?
38. McCAY: Well, I believe our dried foods are somewhat better processed than the Japanese dehydrates...and I think ours taste better. A lot of their dehydrated food has a dried hay smell...though it is nutritionally efficient. Maybe the Japs like it...I don't.
39. JOHN: Are there any major points of difference between the Jap rations and our own, Commander McCay?
40. McCAY: Well, from the straight nutritonal angles, they're lower in protein content than ours...and, of course, they use some oriental products which we don't use. Whenever they feel they're a little weak on some vitamins in the ration, they fortify their foods with an issue of vitamin pills or concentrates.
41. JOHN: Strictly up to date, eh, Commander?
42. McCAY: They certainly are, Johnny. The Japs have done one funny trick that we haven't been able to make heads or tails out of yet.
43. JOHN: What was that?
44. McCAY: Some packages of captured food labeled in Japanese "Dried Alfalfa" came through. Just by looking at the stuff, we knew it wasn't alfalfa. We finally had it identified by a Botanist as a variety of oriental cabbage. We still can't figure out why this "cabbage" was called....alfalfa. But we do know that the Japanese fighting men are getting good rations...far better than the American public has thought they were getting.

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45. FREYMAN: Well, it was good to have you with us and learn some of these things, Commander McCay.
46. McCAY: Glad to have the chance to do it, Mrs. Freyman...and now I want you to meet Corporal Rodney Piper....U. S. Marine Corps.
47. AD LIB: How do you do.
48. McCAY: Corporal Piper is a Massachusetts man who served during the rough days on Guadalcanal.
49. PIPER: And I don't mind admitting that I like Massachusetts much better than Guadalcanal, Mrs. Freyman.
50. FREYMAN: I think most people would feel the same way about it.
51. PIPER: It was a little rugged on Guadalcanal when we arrived.
52. FREYMAN: There wasn't any New England clam chowder or Boston Baked Beans for you when you get there, Corporal?
53. PIPER: I'll say not. Rations for assault troops are uncertain in the early days of fighting, Mrs. Freyman.
54. JOHN: What did you get to eat when you first landed on Guadalcanal, Corporal Piper?
55. PIPER: Well, for the first three weeks, my group lived on K rations and the awfulest tasting water I ever drank.
56. JOHN: How did you like those K rations?
57. PIPER: They kept us going, Johnny...which was the big thing at the time. Naturally, a fellow gets tired of eating K rations day after day ...but we didn't put into Guadalcanal with any idea of getting good hotel service.
58. JOHN: And you lived on K's for three weeks?
59. PIPER: Honestly, I couldn't swear whether it was 2 weeks or 3 weeks... or what. But it seemed like a long time...at the time. Anyway... at the end of that period, we got a change of rations.
60. JOHN: Things were better?

61. PIPER: I guess so. Anyhow, in addition to the K rations, which we still ate...we got some griddle nearly every day. Of course, lots of times, they were chilly cakes instead of hot cakes before they could get 'em to us.
62. JOHN: A cold hot cake doesn't sound very tasty.
63. PIPER: Well, maybe not...as a rule. But it was something a little different...and it helped out for 3 or 4 more weeks.
64. JOHN: Then your food for 4 to 6 more weeks was K rations and hot cakes?
65. PIPER: Well, we did get a little rice and some other stuff now and then from the Japs. The Japs we got the rations from weren't ever going to need them any more.
66. JOHN: What about meat?
67. PIPER: Pretty often we'd see some wild horses or wild pigs...but the medicos told us they were full of T.B....so they're still running around I guess.
68. FREYMAN: The things you ate weren't exactly "company dinner" sort of meals.
69. PIPER: No ma'am, they weren't. But all the time...the fellows behind the lines were doing wonders to see that we got fed at all. And when you look back, it wasn't really very long until we were eating good.
70. JOHN: At the end of 6 weeks, things got better?
71. PIPER: I suppose they were really getting better all the time but by the middle of November, the ships and supplies were really coming in and we had food that nobody ought to complain about. You know...regular home stuff, lots of times...beef and potatoes and vegetables and things. It took a lot of doing, too, to get food to us. Tojo liked to see us hungry.

72. JOHN: The Navy came through again in bringing in the supplies.

73. PIPER: Sure did. Of course, we always did a little kicking about the food...that's a man's privilege. But it got downright good...even with the Japs trying to blow blazes out of us. We spread our food supply dumps around so the Japs'd never score a lucky hit and make us go hungry.

74. JOHN: Let's see, you were moved out of Guadalcanal with malaria, weren't you?

75. PIPER: That's right. The Japs didn't get me..but oh, those little malaria bugs! They sent me to Australia to get straightened out.

76. JOHN: How'd you like Australia?

77. PIPER: That's a great place...and do they feed you! Never had better meat in my life.

78. FREYMAN? Was it meat sent in from the United States or Australian meat?

79. PIPER: It was Australian meat...reverse Lend-Lease. Those Austrailians are furnishing a gosh-awful amount of meat for American troops. I liked all of it fine...except the rabbits...and I just don't happen to like rabbit.

80. JOHN: All in all, how do you feel about the food you got?

81. PIPER: Like I said, when you think of the distances and dangers involved ...and when you actually see that Guadalcanal country...thick with tough and very unfriendly Japs...well...a lot of people did quite a job to get us the food that carried us through. Didn't even take very long to get us good food...but, Johnny...I still like Massachusetts better than Guadalcanal.

82. JOHN: Don't blame you...and thank you for being with us today, Corporal Rodney Piper.

83. McCAY: Oh, Johnny....

84. JOHN: Yes, Commander McCay....

85. McCAY: Another Naval Service man you'll want to meet is Chief Petty Officer F. M. Earhart.
86. JOHN: Glad to meet you, Chief and ...Mrs. Freyman, Chief Earhart.
87. AD LIB: How do you do.
88. FREYMAN: Did you serve in the Solomon Islands campaigns, too, Chief?
89. EARHART: No, Mrs. Freyman, I was a long ways away from there. I've been up in the Aleutians and Unalaska. But the Japs we had anything to do with were just as bad tempered as Corporal Piper's Guadalcanal Tojos. Our Jap callers came by air.
90. FREYMAN: Did they interfere with your eating?
91. Earhart; For the first three days I was there, they interfered with everything. I think they always raided us just before mealtimes. When they came, we'd all run up a nearby mountainside for safety.
92. FREYMAN: How about your cooks?
93. EARHART: As I remember it, the cooks were the fastest runners in the detail ...but we all tried hard to get ahead of them. Those Japs were making track stars out of us.
94. FREYMAN: Just how did you eat?
95. EARHART: We'd try to grab a loaf of bread...or anything we could lay our hands on.. when an air raid started...and run for the mountain side. You see, when I first arrived, we didn't have anything around to fight back with. But how that changed...after a while!
96. FREYMAN: Well, now, about the time after those first three days of constant air raids....
97. EARHART: Oh, pretty quick we got plenty of good food shipped to us...and then one day, our luck ran out.
98. FREYMAN: More Japs?
99. EARHART: Sort of. We had a supply ship close to our place and one night the Japs sunk it. And down went 80 tons of beef we were going to unload in the morning.

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100. FREYMAN: And so you were out of meat?
101. EARHART: That's what you think. There was another supply ship, nearby, that wasn't touched...and it was simply loaded with turkey.
102. FREYMAN: Imagine a ship full of turkey.
103. EARHART: Well, maybe it wasn't entirely loaded with turkey...but it had plenty. And for three weeks, breakfast, lunch and dinner...we ate turkey.
104. JOHN: It sounds luxurious, Chief.
105. EARHART: It only sounds that way, Johnny...because I'm here to tell you that 3 weeks of turkey is just about as appetizing as 3 weeks of K rations.
106. JOHN: What are you going to eat, this Christmas dinner?
107. EARHART: If I have any say about it...they can give me antelope or elephant or moose or whale...anything so long as it's not turkey.
108. FREYMAN: Well, Chief, other than those first three days...and the 3 weeks turkey festival, how was the food?
109. EARHART: It was great, Mrs. Freyman. We had good food, plenty of variety and we were blessed with excellent...though fast running cooks.
110. FREYMAN: Any shortages?
111. EARHART: Oh, now and again we were a little low on green stuff...and they gave us some kind of vitamin pills to help things along.
112. FREYMAN: You did get a balanced ration, however?
113. EARHART: Well, I'm not a nutritionist so I couldn't tell about that. What I do know is that the food was so good that we kept healthy, worked like beavers...and a lot of us gained weight.
114. FREYMAN: That certainly speaks well for the chow.
115. EARHART: Yes, ma'am. When it came to getting the food through, the Navy kept up to one of those mottos, I've seen very frequently.
116. FREYMAN: What motto is that, Chief?

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF THE HISTORY OF ARTS
AND ARCHITECTURE
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
JANUARY 10, 1911

TO THE EDITOR

SIR:

I have the honor

to acknowledge

the receipt of your

letter of the 10th

inst.

and in reply to

inform you that

the same has been

forwarded to the

proper authorities

for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very

truly yours,

Very truly yours,

W. B. E. B.

Dean

Office of the Dean

Department of the History of Arts

and Architecture

University of Chicago

Chicago, Ill.

Jan 10, 1911

Enclosed

for you are

two copies of

the report of the

committee on

the proposed

changes in the

curriculum of the

Department of the

History of Arts

and Architecture.

I am, Sir, very

truly yours,

W. B. E. B.

117. EARHART: The one that goes, "Miracles we do every day. The impossible may take a little longer." That's what the Navy did with food...kept it coming. And let me just add...that although Tojo made us miserable for awhile...it will be very unhealthy for him to call back now.
118. FREYMAN: Well, thank you for being with us, Chief Petty Officer, F. M. Earhart.
119. McCAY: Oh, Mrs. Freyman....
120. FREYMAN: Yes, Commander McCay?
121. McCAY: This other Navy man is Chief Gunner's Mate Dennis J. O'Sullivan.
122. AD LIB: How do you do.
123. FREYMAN: Chief O'Sullivan, what area did you serve in?
124. O'SULLIVAN: I was on North Atlantic Convoy duty...and the Iceland Base.
125. FREYMAN: That doesn't sound like easy duty.
126. O'SULLIVAN: A lot of men are doing it, Mrs. Freyman...and they're doing it so well that the Nazi submarines aren't the menace they were when I first went on North Atlantic Convoy duty.
127. FREYMAN: The subs were bad when you were there?
128. O'SULLIVAN: Pretty nasty. I've seen ships blown up and taken survivors aboard my ship. That brings home to you the battle it is to get men, supplies, food...through to the overseas bases. People here would never waste a scrap if they could see what some of the fellows go through to get food to our men and our Allies overseas.
129. FREYMAN: I can understand that convoy service would make a man conservation-minded, Chief?
130. O'SULLIVAN: It sure does. And being aboard some of those British ships does the same thing.
131. JOHN: How's that, Chief?

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132. O'SULLIVAN: Well, Johnny...those Britishers know the importance and the value of food down to the last ounce. I don't think they feed as well as we do...and they avoid waste like the plague. They learned the hard way.
133. JOHN: How were things in Iceland?
134. O'SULLIVAN: The wind blew 70 or 80 miles an hour. It was often zero. When it wasn't cold...it was damp or wet. All in all, I wouldn't pick Iceland for my vacation spot.
135. FREYMAN: How was the food up there?
136. O'SULLIVAN: I don't know how they did it...but the food was wonderful. As far as I'm concerned, the food was the brightest spot in a cold, windy world at Iceland.
137. FREYMAN: Really?
138. O'SULLIVAN: Indeed, yes. We had good cooks and the food was just as fine as you'd want to get anywhere. We had good meat, plenty of it...fruits, vegetables...everything.
139. FREYMAN: Did you have any of those dehydrated vegetables?
140. O'SULLIVAN: Sometimes. But we got a lot of quick frozen fruits and vegetables. The boys put away plenty and sure did enjoy it. Iceland was pretty quiet when I was there.
141. JOHN: What did you do for amusement?
142. O'SULLIVAN: Well, the biggest dissipation for me...and a lot of other men.... was to drop into one of those little places where we could buy a pot of tea and a little cake. We could get better tea and better cake from our own outfit...but it was something to do.
143. FREYMAN: Chief, you served in the Navy during the last war too, didn't you?
144. O'SULLIVAN: Yes, Mrs. Freyman, I did. I was detailed up with the British Grand Fleet at Scapa Flow for a while.
145. FREYMAN: Any difference in food between this war and the last one?

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146. O'SULLIVAN: Plenty of difference.

147. FREYMAN: Better or worse?

148. O'SULLIVAN: Oh, lots better in this one. Refrigeration and storage and a lot of things have improved. We not only get better food now...we also get more variety...and better cooking too.

149. JOHN: Sounds like there's no comparison.

150. O'SULLIVAN: Well, for a comparison of the food I got, you could say, when it came to meals, "It's Christmas every day" compared to what I ate during the last war.

151. FREYMAN: Somebody was telling me that the food on tankers was particularly good.

152. O'SULLIVAN: Right. Those tankers are ships we all like. If you run short of something and need extra food...the tankers come through and let you have something good. They've helped lots of us.

153. FREYMAN: It's a real case of sharing.

154. O'SULLIVAN: You bet. But of course...all through the services...we share our chow when sharing's needed. You know we're not going to let other fellows go short as long as we have some to share with them.

155. FREYMAN: Well, I want to thank you very much for being with us here today, Chief O'Sullivan...and lots of good luck to you.

156. O'SULLIVAN: Thanks, Mrs. Freyman. I'll try to keep th' luck o' th' Irish.

157. JOHN: We hope that the factual stories of these men in the Naval service have helped you realize once again, the part that food plays on world-wide battle fronts.

158. FREYMAN: These stories...all true...make it a little clearer how Food Fights for Freedom.....

159. JOHN: And why we, here at home, must produce food...conserve it, share it and play square.

160. FREYMAN: And now, Johnny, about the CONSUMER TIME program for next Saturday.

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161. JOHN: CONSUMER TIME will not be presented on Christmas Day, Mrs. Freyman.
162. FREYMAN: And how about the next Saturday...the Saturday following Christmas?
163. JOHN: Well, for Saturday, January 1....New Year's Day, CONSUMER TIME will present Roy F. Hendrickson...the Director of Food Distribution... to outline the Food Outlook for 1944...for all of us in this country. And we'll also have some information...until recently, very hush-hush, about the food situation in the Axis enemy nations.
164. FREYMAN: We'll be together again Saturday, January 1.
165. JOHN: That's right...and in wishing everyone a merry Christmas, we also invite you to join us, two weeks from today, New Year's Day, January 1 to hear.....
166. SOUND: CASH REGISTER....MONEY IN TILL
167. MAN: CONSUMER TIME:
168. SOUND: CASH REGISTER
169. JOHN: How your money buys...a living in wartime.
170. SOUND: CASH REGISTER...CLOSE DRAWER
171. ANNOUNCER: CONSUMER TIME, written by Granville Dickey, is presented by the War Food Administration through the facilities of the National Broadcasting Company and its affiliated independent radio stations. This broadcast period for CONSUMER TIME has been made available as a public service.

The program has come to you from Washington.

This is the National Broadcasting Company.

